

COMMUNIST DECEPTION IN THE CHURCHES*

By JOSEPH ZACK KORNFEDER

**Former Member, International Secretariat of the Communist Party
Graduate of the Lenin School of Political Warfare, Moscow**

***An address before CIRCUIT RIDERS, Inc., at a National Committee
conference in Cincinnati, Ohio, October 26, 1952**

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This is the first time to my knowledge that a group of Protestant churchmen has organized to combat the Communist infiltration and indoctrination going on in a number of their denominations during the past twenty years. I am not surprised that your group, the CIRCUIT RIDERS, has risen out of The Methodist Church because so much of this kind of activity has been in that church. The Communists with their subtle methods and deceptions have had very little opposition in the churches all of these years. I have been observing this for a long time and have regretted not finding a counter group. So, when I became aware that a group had arisen at long last to fight that infiltration, I was happy to offer whatever assistance I could.

Now, before I come to the subject of Communism in The Methodist Church, I must give you an idea of the realities of this menace. The thing that has been taking place in your church is only a branch of a much larger tree and it is not sufficient just to examine the branch until we understand the tree itself, as well as the soil in which it grows.

Conquest by Subversion

Communism in this country is the organization that carries on psychological, or what you have been led to call "cold war." This has been going on here for 35 years. It has gone on ever since a handful of 64 thousand Bolsheviks

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seized power in Russia in 1917 and it was there long before. This is a new type of war that Americans know very little about but which made it possible for tightly organized and disciplined groups in Russia to conquer that vast country. When the Bolsheviks seized power, Russia was a nation of 180 million people. The capital at that time was Petrograd, now known as Leningrad. It was actually seized by surprise with a military organization of only 36 hundred commandos. Of course, the Czarist empire had been decaying for some time. That's what made such a thing possible. But even so, the government had 50 thousand troops and 12 thousand police in the city when it was seized. Next came Moscow, and so on.

They have enlarged their gains by similar methods of organization and propaganda to what is now an empire of 800 million people or one-third of the population of the world. If you consider that but a few years before the Russian revolution the entire Bolshevik Party had only 6 thousand members and then contemplate the expansion of their empire in the short space of 40 years, you will appreciate what they have been able to accomplish by subversion, or by organization, propaganda and agitation. This then is the secret and potency of an enemy about which many of us are only now becoming aware. So, when you think about Communism, don't consider it to be just a problem in the church, because it is much bigger than that. It concerns us all as American citizens as well as church members.

What I am about to say is not found in the books on Communism because even their most outspoken writings are deceptive. The central idea of this type of warfare is to confuse or destroy the ideology of the "enemy." If they succeed in diverting or demoralizing present day institutions and culture patterns of which religion is so basic, then a situation will be created where they can move in and finish us off with very little effort. In short, if a situation is

created where people in the West no longer believe in their own country, or doubt their basic principles, or become confused, - then they are disarmed ideologically and become easy to conquer.

In our foreign policy, they have performed the most successful deception that history has ever known, by the simple method of "interpretation," which in Bolshevik terminology is known as "diversion." This deception has lost us China and the mainland of Asia, not to speak of other countries. It is in this field that Moscow has been the most successful of all, if you care to read the authoritative reports by Beaty, Budenz, Creel, Dallin, Flynn, Gitlow, Kieffer, Krivitsky, Lane, Toledano, Utley, and Willoughby, not to mention several excellent Congressional Committee reports.

The Fakery of Communism

We call them "Communists," but the idea of Communism is an old one. It antedated by many centuries the monstrosity that now goes under the name. In fact, the ideal of Communism has been an ingredient of all major religions in one form or another. It is basic to the general idea of the brotherhood of man and extends back even to the tribal system. I am not a student of religious history but in the Lenin School of Political Warfare that I attended in Moscow, we learned that in order to fight an enemy effectively one had to study his ideology. Hence I learned more about religion in that college than I ever had before, but, of course, it was for the purpose of destroying it.

While all the historic ideas of Christian Communism were based on the brotherhood of man under God, the Communists of today have conceived of a brotherhood of man without God - based upon materialism on the idea that man has certain material interests in common as a class and that this type of brotherhood can be established by class warfare pending the time when all barriers are

down and man will live in a "perfect" society.

Those of you who may be familiar with Socialist literature will have noticed that they never use the term "Communist." In former days, there was a degree of integrity in the radical movement. The Socialists knew the difference between the ancient concepts of Communism and the thing they wanted. Marx and Engels, who were the original theorists, used the term "Communism" only rarely, mainly in what has become known as the Communist Manifesto. It took the Bolsheviks, the ones that are now called the Communist Party of Russia, and Lenin to put the name "Communism" upon things that had nothing in common with it.

What they have in Russia today is merely a fratricidal struggle in the name of one class (i. e. the Communist Party, comprising less than 3 per cent of the population) for supremacy over "the masses." The Communists have taken over from the Socialists. They have taken whatever democracy or tendency toward democracy was in it and created the darkest of totalitarian regimes that ever existed on this earth - worse than anything conceived of or used by the Fascists or Nazis. This they have done by the insidious method of "reinterpretation," and you shall hear more about this as I proceed.

Slaughter Starts After Conquest

The story of Russia since the Bolsheviks seized power is one of continuous civil war against every class, every group, every dissenter, and even every suspected dissenter. Initially, the lives of only a few thousand were lost, but after the Bolsheviks established themselves, millions were lost, because the real war that the Bolsheviks carry on against humanity begins with the seizure of power. To give you an idea of what happens, I will quote in part from a rather large document. I have seen the original and am quoting only the less gruesome part. It concerns a country that the Bolsheviks had just taken over. This is

Order No. 001223 issued by the Peoples Commissar of NKVD of the U. S. S. R. on November 28, 1940 and reads as follows:

"Into the alphabetic files must be entered all those persons who, because of their social and political past, their nationalistic-chauvinistic inclinations, religious beliefs, moral and political instability, are hostile to the socialistic form of state, and consequently might be exploited by foreign intelligence services and counter-revolutionary centers for anti-Soviet purposes. Among such elements are to be counted:

"a. All former members of anti-Soviet political parties, organizations, and groups: Trotskyists, right wingers, Essers, Mensheviks, Social Democrats, Anarchists, etc.

"b. All former members of nationalistic, chauvinistic anti-Soviet parties, Nationalists, Christian Democrats, the active members of student corporations, the National Guard, etc.

"c. Former policemen, officers of the criminal and political police and of the prisons.

"d. Former army officers and members of all military courts.

"e. Persons who are dismissed from the Communist Party and Communist Youth Organizations for various offenses against the Party.

"f. All refugees, political emigrants, immigrants, repatriants, and contrabandists.

"g. All citizens of foreign states, representatives of foreign firms, employees of foreign state institutions, former citizens of foreign states, former employees of foreign legations, concessions, and stock companies.

"h. Persons who maintain personal contact or are in correspondence with foreign countries, legations, and consulates, with philatelists and esperantists.

"i. Former officials of ministerial departments.

"j. Former Red Cross officials.

"k. The clergy of religious communities, orthodox priests, Roman Catholic priests, sectarians, and active members of religious congregations.

"1. Former noblemen, estate owners, merchants, bankers, businessmen, owners of factories and shops, owners of hotels and restaurants.

"For the completion of the alphabetic files for all anti-Soviet elements there must be made the most careful use of all sources, among them: Reports of agencies, material of special investigations, material of party and Soviet organizations, declarations of citizens, testimonies and other official material must be proved at first in the agential way.

"The chief of the first special branch of the NKVD is under special obligation to report daily about the progress of this order . . ."

Note from these categories that everyone here today would be included. This is from a document which western intelligence got hold of in the turmoil of the last war and which we otherwise would never have seen. But that is not all. The arrest of all such people throughout Russia, would comprise some 2 million persons. But the Communists in the name of their alleged brotherhood of man, proceeded on an even larger scale than that. When they suspect the population of a region, such as for example, Southern Ohio, all would be arrested and removed. They would not engage in any tiresome investigations or hold any trials: they would just round up the entire population, load them into cattle cars, and ship them off to concentration camps.

Such are some of the realities of Communism, the most barbaric type of society with which anyone has ever been confronted. It isn't a question of saving human lives by giving in, in order to avoid war or conflict, because that's when the first big slaughter starts. I suggest that you compare these realities with the deceptive propaganda which appears in their newspapers and magazines from day to day.

Seizure of the State as the Key to Power

Now, let's come to another of their great deceptions. I have said that materialism is their god. Materialism is the essence of all their philosophy from Karl Marx on. Their organization and propaganda is a continued incitement of the animal urges in man. Anything goes that incites man to get something for nothing. That is, until the Communists get into power. After that, it is quite different. Please notice that all the Socialists and Radicals, except the Anarchists, have one thing in common: they aim to build up a powerful state, whether it be a hard state, like the one in Russia or formerly in Nazi Germany, or one that gets to that point gradually in a softer way. The state owns and distributes everything. The state replaces the family. The state is to be master from the cradle to the grave. It may be seized by revolutionary means as was done in 1917, or by infiltration as in little Czechoslovakia where some 300 thousand people are already in slave labor camps.

How many thousands were executed since they seized power, we shall probably never know. These are two methods by which they have thus far gained power in a number of countries. The tool for all these operations where it is by direct assault or infiltration, is the 20th century enemy of humanity, namely the Communist Party.

Please keep all this in mind as we now proceed because the Communist Party is the operational center for all of it. Lenin called it, "a new type of Party," but it is not a political party in the American sense at all. It is an ideological warfare machine to discredit our beliefs, institutions, leaders, and everything we do, day in and day out, by any and all methods. If you study their propaganda, you will find it concerns civil war. In the ideological propaganda they carry on, you can discern the true character of their organization

because who else but the Communists would carry on that consistent smear and vicious character assassination against anybody and everybody who is not completely on their side.

Who but the Communists would build secret factions inside other organizations in order to disrupt them? Who would build deceptive fronts in order slyly to exploit "liberalism" and pervert democracy? Such methods and practices, associated in the past with actual warfare, are now carried on in time of peace.

Fables About the Benevolence of the State

How do they sell this reactionary idea of the all powerful state? It is done under the deceptive formula which claims that if the government owns, the people own. Strange, how many people accept this glib political slogan without examining its substance. Who is the government? In a totalitarian state, it is the vast bureaucracy of a Communist or Fascist party. There is more "peoples ownership" in a stock company than there ever was in a government owned enterprise.

A citizen in a Democracy does have an indirect voice in what the government owns. But if the government is owned and controlled by a party like the Communist party and the citizen is not even able to throw out the politicians once in a while, then government ownership is no more ownership by the people than it was in the days of absolute monarchies. Yet, by a process of propagandistic transposition, they've sold the idea that government ownership means people's ownership. Part of the hoax is, of course, that they promise the working man that if the government owns, the workman will own the factories . . and the profits will go to him. If you tell that to the Russian working man he will laugh bitterly because he knows better as a result of cruel experience.

There is no master as cruel and no landlord as bad as the totalitarian state.

There is only one way that people can own things, and that is to own it personally, or directly and not through proxies, so whenever you meet these propagandists, and that includes the METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION, you should challenge such socialistic drivel as being only propaganda fakery.

Do the Communists believe in the ownership of anything by the people? Of course not! That is the farthest thing from their thought. They believe in a state which is owned by the Communist Party and which exploits everybody for the benefit of the members of the Party.

Thugs Posing as Liberals

The Communists love to sail under the flags of other ideologies. They started originally, in fact they built their party under the flag of Socialism - Democratic Socialism. First they gutted the Socialists, and formed the Communist Party. Then in countries like the United States, especially where the Socialism movement itself was of very little consequence, they learned to operate under the flag of Liberalism pretending to be Democrats in order to infiltrate government agencies.

True Liberalism, of course, is based on the worth and the independence of the individual. It stands for free enterprise. In short, it is the ingredient of a free society. The Communists, of course, do not believe in any of that. They do not believe in the worth of the individual except as serfs of the State. They certainly don't believe in free enterprise. But, for their purposes, they pretend to believe in it. They know better than anybody else, that Liberalism is the very antithesis of Communism and you can plumb the depths of their deceptive methods when you contemplate to what lengths they will go to use Liberalism for their purposes. They know that it is far more difficult to expose than when

they are draped in the flag of Liberalism and posing as Liberal church reformers than if they were to sail under their own flag, as they did in the early '20's. It's the old story of the wolf in sheep's clothing, or the pirate ship which hauled down its flag of piracy and hoisted the colors of the nation to be raided

Well, how do they succeed as Liberals? That's rather simple, because they are always willing to give away the things that other people own. You can never out demand the Communists, never in your life. Whatever anybody may demand in the way of wages, short hours, low prices, old age pensions, unemployment insurance, medical services, abolition of the speedup, and so on, the Communists will always outdo everybody else. Hence, those that do not know the essentials of true Liberalism think that such things constitute Liberalism. Whereas the Communists promise the workers low prices, high wages, short hours, etc., they talk out of the other side of their mouths when they agitate among the farmers and promise high prices. How can you reconcile the two? They are not concerned about that. They're not a responsible party, not responsible to our or any free society. They talk of high prices, free insurance against crop failures, fire, hail, cattle diseases, cancellation of mortgages, paid soil conservation, guaranteed income, and what not. To the average worker or farmer who is not awake, a giveaway program is made to sound like Liberalism.

To the Negroes, the Communists not only promise every possible job and facility by law, but they even promise them a black republic. You probably do not know much about that, but there has been a book out for some years by their principal Negro theoretician which lays out the true Communist program. I mean "true" for the sole purpose of winning the Negroes. It proposes making a separate country out of the counties in the south where Negroes have a majority, and contrary to all of their talk against race discrimination, they proclaim that in

this separate Negro republic, the Black Republic, all of the whites will be chased out — expropriated without compensation — and they spell that out in just so many words. They also advocate that in the big cities of the north where there are large Negro populations they should have separate municipalities with separate Negro mayors, police and fire departments, etc. It is proposed that the Negro municipalities should have the privilege of all community services without paying extra for them, including their own courts. In short, when and if racial segregation serves their purposes, they are all for it. Do they in Russia believe or practice what they advocate here? Of course not! But for purposes of disruption, of incitation, and of dissention, — which are the chief characteristics of their ideological warfare methods . . . this kind of thing serves the purpose very well.

I have had to dwell upon their reinterpretation of "Liberalism" and the hoax they made of Liberalism, because such a pattern is embodied in the literature and programs of the METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION. All of these sugarcoated demands are right in there, and the METHODIST FEDERATION'S claim to Liberalism is based upon identically the same pattern — on Materialism and on exploiting the material appetites of man. By hitching Materialism to Liberalism and making out of it a plausible concoction, they have made out of Liberalism something the Liberals never intended it to be.

Under the flag of Liberalism, the Communists have used the so-called civil rights approach and gone to work on our laws. They have done that by concocting new laws and by re-interpreting old ones. The purpose of this is to create more elbow room for their operations. Once they are in power, all civil liberties are killed on the double, as witness what has happened in Russia and all her satellites.

Now let us look a little closer at this gift horse the Communists are seeking to foist upon us in the name of civil liberties. Let us take the right to strike. They interpret this as the right to strike anywhere at any time, irrespective of contract, or the consequences. They interpret the right to picket, as the right to mob violence. They claim the right to picket our courts, even our judges, or anyone in their way - even to persons in their homes. Do the Communists actually believe in such privileges? Do they give any such privileges in Russia? Of course not. The mere idea of organizing in order to demand things from the Soviet State is something that would be worth from five to ten years in a slave labor camp.

Atheists Posing as Religious Reformers

It would be difficult to appreciate what now follows if I had not reviewed for you the general nature and practice of Communism as it relates to the church. Religion and materialism are ideologically opposite and they know it. If one eliminates religion, what will man strive for? Materialism? No, he was always that, from the time when he was a mere savage. Are we to reintroduce the goal of materialism into society and return to where man was many centuries ago? And, in order to realize that goal, shall we carry on a war of extermination, of brother against brother? That in sum and substance is the difference between the Communists and us. It is religion that has taught man whatever ethics he has and which has made it possible to bridge his animal appetites and make him live as a human and social being.

When the Communists invade religion, they invade as Stalin once said, the ideological fortress of the enemy. If they should succeed with their deceptive methods to confuse religion to such an extent that it too will be neutral in the fight between Capitalism and Communism, they'll have scored a tremendous victory.

Don't think that that isn't possible! Only two years ago a great international association of churches adopted a resolution declaring the churches to be neutral in the struggle between Capitalism and Communism. If religion, as the very foundation of civilization, is made impotent to the extent that the church declares itself neutral in this, the biggest, most important struggle of our century, then indeed there is much to worry about.

Now, what of the efforts of the Communists to infiltrate religion? This movement originated in Russia in the early '20's. The Russian Orthodox Church comprised about 95 percent of the population, but it was enamored with its routine and ceremonials and was fairly dormant. Even so, it represented an ideology basically hostile to Bolshevism that the red dictators could not tolerate. The Communists cannot even tolerate a potential enemy, let alone an active one, so they went to work on the Russian Orthodox Church.

The first method was one of direct assault. They created a society of the godless, which the government organized and financed, and through it carried on the most vicious and obscene propaganda against religion that the world has ever known. But, the peasants who in the first place were most illiterate, could not be reached by that propaganda and in the second place they were fundamentally religious and didn't go for it. That type of propaganda found a response only in some of the big cities. So Stalin, a former divinity student himself, originated the idea of organizing something from within, while continuing the attack from outside. Of course, he knew enough about the Russian Orthodox church to have some rather practical suggestions. He came upon the idea that the Bible could be "reinterpreted" in the materialistic sense. Did not Christ chase out the money lenders? That means He was against capital and capitalists. Was He not for the poor and the lowly? Hence, He was for the working

man and against the capitalist exploiters. Did He not preach brotherhood? So, Christ was a Communist. And, of course, by using the powers of the police they forced a considerable number of big city preachers into a group that became known as the LIVING CHURCH movement. This group is now in complete control of whatever remains of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The Methodist Federation

This was just a maneuver at the time for purposes of taking over the Russian Church. It took a number of years for them to get onto the idea that a similar method could be used for infiltrating the religious groups in the West. In fact, they began to work on that only toward the end of the '20's. You can see for yourself that this very pattern is expressed in the writings, literature, and actions of the METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION previously known as the METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL SERVICE. Just enough of religious sugar-coating was used to entrap those who are religious. If this religious cloak had been omitted, then all discerning Methodists would have recognized it as agitational and subversive. But, put a little garnish of religion around these activities and the same Methodist who doesn't know about this kind of warfare against society, will fall for it.

Such has been the pattern of the literature produced by the METHODIST FEDERATION for at least two decades. There are all kinds of demands in the interest of the workers, in the interest of the farmers, and in the interest of other groups that they want the church to fight for. But, suppose the church goes into the business of fighting for such things, how much of a church would it remain? Would it not become a union, a political party, or a farmers organization? Would it not become engaged in the class struggle? That is the purpose - to introduce Materialism in the name of Liberalism, to reinterpret the

role of "religion," and to demoralize the church by injecting into it something that does not belong there. That has been the pattern of the METHODIST FEDERATION for many years. Until they came upon the scene, the idea of the church was to foster the spiritual ennoblement of man, to teach man ethics, to elevate him from everyday materialism into an exalted atmosphere of outlook and behavior. But the METHODIST FEDERATION sought something different, more in harmony with Stalin's idea of what to do with the church.

The first time I heard these things discussed was in 1928 in the Lenin School of Political Warfare in Moscow. It was against the rules and practices of the Party for any Communist to join a church at that time, or vice versa for any church member to be admitted to the Communist party. A Communist had to be completely free of religion in order to be a Communist, and that is still so. One cannot be a Communist as such today and believe in religion, because the two beliefs are absolute opposites.

But in 1929, it was decided that for "special purposes," they would instruct certain party members to rejoin the church and ask those in the church to remain there for special purposes. This was based on the old Bolshevik theory that where the masses are, the Communists must be and that it is stupid to miss an opportunity of infiltrating and indoctrinating the churches. The new objective thus became to get at the millions who are in the churches. Hence, it became necessary for the Communist to go back to church, to recruit in the church, and to carry on the process of "reinterpretation" and "demoralization."

Such things permeate the METHODIST FEDERATION: their program, their social questions bulletins, their leaflets, their pamphlets, and so on. For instance, here I see in the Social Questions Bulletin of April, 1950 on pages 1 and 3, that we are, "to promote social action in the spirit of Jesus." Now, in

that one word, "Social Action," is the opening into which the whole materialistic horde moves in, in grand style. Further on, I read that we are "to affirm the radical character of the kingdom of God." Well, when that is gotten hold of by experts in political and ideological warfare, much can be made of it, so next I read about "the establishment of full democracy and unreserved brotherhood in our political and economic social life." We have heard a lot about "people's democracy" in the countries behind the Iron Curtain, so what is meant by "full democracy," if not the double talk of the Stalinists.

Our Constitution and Bill of Rights are based on contrary concepts, namely that certain rights of the individual are guaranteed and that is what has made our system stand up. If we ever had gone for the idea that a majority in any meeting or occasion can legislate away the rights of the individual or of a minority, America would have gone to perdition a long time ago. What the editors of this bulletin mean by "true democracy" is what the Communists do with any group they succeed in manipulating. Next, I read that "The Federation rejects the method of struggle for profit, as the economic basis for society." If there is any other economic basis for society except personal incentive, the METHODIST FEDERATION curiously fails to state it. The editors can only mean state ownership when they speak of rejecting private enterprise.

Now you will have concluded, and I can publicly assert, that the METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION is a Communist Front. The HOUSE UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE published a report to this effect on February 17, 1952 the same month that your own group, the CIRCUIT RIDERS, published a well-documented report that simply cannot be answered except by indictment.

Conformity of the MFSA to the Party Line

The MFSA, just like a lap dog from Moscow, has gone through all the

twists and jumps of foreign policy that have emanated from the Politburo and I would suggest that the CIRCUIT RIDERS might well trace the details of it during the past 20 years. The whole thing has been cleverly sugarcoated with religious shibboleths, but the raw facts can be traced clearly enough. Those among the leaders who have put the METHODIST FEDERATION through the many girations of Soviet foreign policy can be none other than conscious and disciplined Communists obeying orders from Moscow, and the Reverend Dr. HARRY F. WARD, is certainly one of them. A Communist is an atheist so when he poses as a churchman he practices deception. No one with any intellectual integrity will go through all these girations except a soldier of Moscow and no one else will coin such hypocritical phrases. It takes one who has really lost all integrity as a religious man to perform in this fashion. As a Communist, what HARRY F. WARD does, makes sense, but as a responsible religious leader, I would say that he is fully corscious of the double play that he and his colleagues have been putting over on The Methodist Church. Now let me say a few words about these contortions.

The Communists were quite outspoken in the early '30's about their 'advocacy of the overthrow of capitalism. The bulletins of the METHODIST FEDERATION echoed this line by calling for "a new social order." Now, here we are in a free country where there is every opportunity for necessary and legitimate change. Why, even KARL MARX did not conceive of any need for a revolution in a country where there is so much democracy and opportunity as in America. He sought to resolve things by revolution in monarchies like in old Russia and Germany, but not in a free country such as America. But, here is a group that alleges to be liberal and religious, publishing that it advocates a "new social order." They don't specify the kind of social order because then the reader would become wise. Among their associates signing the call are the AMERICAN

CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION, the LEAGUE FOR INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY, the LABOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATION, the INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE (which I helped to organize), and then such socialistic setups as the FELLOWSHIP OF RECONCILIATION, etc. In other words, they mix several organizations who either are semi-liberal or non-Communits, but who are aligned with the general idea of Socialism, and mix them in among known Communist organizations, all working for a "new social order."

When Moscow changed its line later on to what is known as "the popular front," all that kind of stuff disappeared from the METHODIST FEDERATION's literature. They became more refined and deceptive. Instead of a "new social order," democracy was stressed. Then, during the Nazi-Soviet Pact, the class struggle was back again and "the Yanks are not coming" was promoted in order to keep us out of the war, while Hitler was supposed to finish off the British. Another giration came after Hitler attacked Russia, when the American Communists became super patriots in order to save Stalin. Since the war, they have been urging the church to finance the defense and encourage the refusal of young men of draft age to register. The Communists have been for the draft, then against the draft, - for the draft, then against the draft, - depending upon the interests and foreign policy of the Soviet Union. Now I am willing to respect a real conscientious objector, but not the kind of traitor who couldn't find enough people to set up a Second Front in a hurry before we were ready, and then later who incited people to refuse to register for the draft because it is not to the Kremlin's advantage.

The METHODIST FEDERATION, like similar Communist fronts, operates half open and half concealed. They also employ the method of concentrating on Methodist youth, on Methodist education and on Methodist publications. These are the channels through which one can indoctrinate future generations as well as

established church members.

Our Task is Clear

Now in summation, let us imagine that we are up on a high mountain looking down on the valley where the battles for the minds of men are raging, where the Communist party is making war on all of the basic and free institutions of our century. Its forces are well organized and they are winning because the people are asleep and offer little opposition. Socialism was first gutted of its democratic content by "reinterpretation." They next proceeded to do the same thing under the flag of Liberalism, the alma mater of democracy and that has been their method in the United States and Canada. Then last, but not least, they have gone to work upon religion, the alma mater of all civilization. They have been doing that with special fervor and effect in The Methodist Church for a generation. The objective is to destroy basic ideologies and institutions, to demoralize them sufficiently so that Moscow can move in with little effort and take over. The extent to which they have succeeded in Europe can be judged in the attitude of "neutralism" that prevails there. The people have reached a stage where they are unable to distinguish between what is right and what is wrong.

Neutralism is already in some of the churches. To the extent that the subversives succeed in creating an ideological vacuum, by reinterpreting, confusing and even smearing the mission of the church, to that extent is the cold or psychological war being lost. This is not primarily a fight to expose and prosecute Communists, as important as that may be. This is a battle to educate all our people in the essentials of this kind of fight and to mobilize them to fight back.

Subversive ideas can't be seen and seldom bear labels. You can't tell what a man is thinking by looking at him. The ideological procedures employed by the Communists are a thousand-fold more dangerous than the military ones. Our military establishment cannot, and is not designed to engage in counter-ideological warfare. The idea that the FBI can take care of Communism is decidedly unrealistic. Our armour is only as strong as our ideology, so in conclusion, may I emphasize the point by quoting from a book by a retired British General* who, back in 1926, was one of those rare military men who then saw the scope and importance of this type of warfare. He wrote that,

"It is conceivable that the method of imposing the will of one nation upon another may in time be replaced by purely psychological warfare, wherein weapons are not even used on the battlefield . . . but instead, the corruption of the mind, the dimming of the intellect, and the disintegration of the moral and spiritual fibre of one nation by the influence of the will of another, is accomplished."

We won World War II and contributed more weapons, air and naval power than any other nation, but the Communists came out of it the real winner as a major power and with an empire of 800 million people. Theirs is a game for keeps. The object is to capture the minds of men, and the weapons are: organization, propaganda, and agitation - supplemented by bullets - and we are losing by default.

But, on our perch on the high mountain let us look on the far side of the valley, the side that is obscured by the Iron Curtain, where we can see the consequences of Communist ideology and Communist methods. We can see hundreds of slave labor camps, the terror of the Police State, continuous persecutions, massacres called purges, misery and starvation, standards of living even lower

*Fuller, General John J. Tanks and War. London

than they used to be during the Czars, and people who as creatures of the state are no longer free but expendable. Such are the consequences of Statism and the ideology of Materialism. Why not broadcast such facts in the schools and churches, over the radio, in newspapers, and throughout the free world?

The Russian people were drawn into this gradually, too. All these nightmares did not descend upon them in one year or even in five years. They were sucked in like many honest preachers have been fooled by the trickery and deception of the METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION. Let us, therefore, consecrate ourselves to fight for our civilization, because with all its faults, it is far superior to anything that the Communists or their stooges have to offer. Only if we realize the nature and consequences of this type of warfare, both as American citizens and as church members, can we put a stop to the advancing plague injected into our civilization by the 20th Century Barbarians masquerading as "Communists."